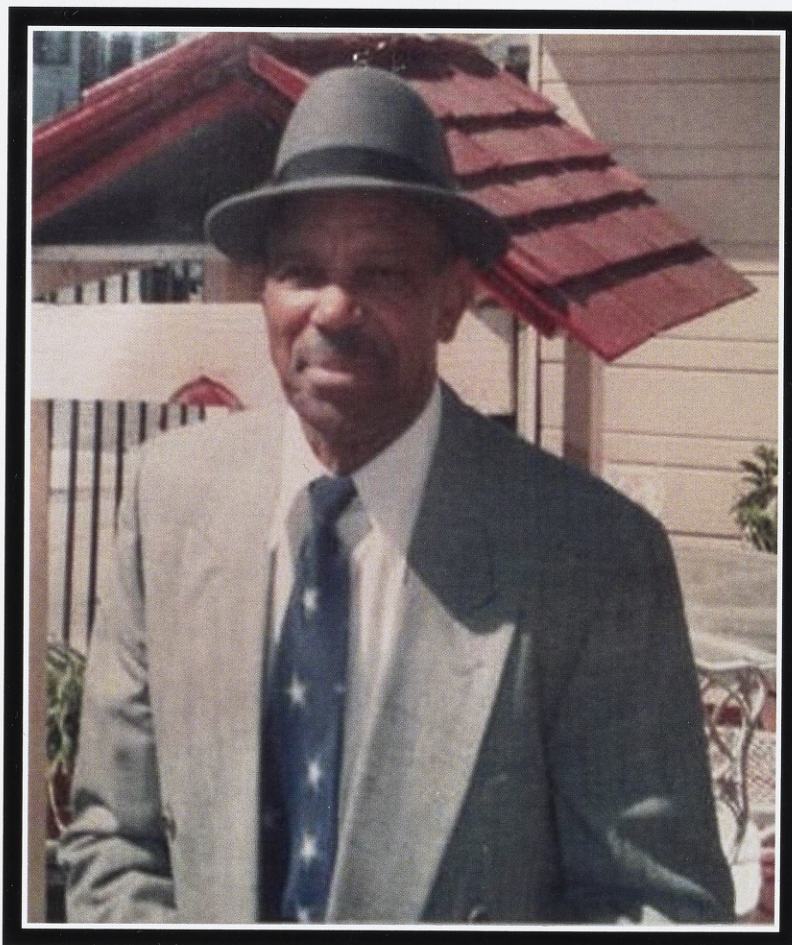


In Loving Memory

Wilbert James Jones

December 18, 1924 ~ February 19, 2014



Saturday, March 8, 2014 ~ 1:30 pm

Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses
1801 Bissell Avenue
Richmond, California

Arthur McCoy ~ Officiating



OBITUARY

On December 18, 1924 in a quiet rural town of Hilly, Louisiana, Shelton and Arma Jones invited a baby boy into the world. Wilbert James Jones. Wilbert would spend just a few years with his mother as she passed when he was just 6 years old. He would be reared by his father and stepmother Idonia along with his 10 brothers and sisters: Ollie, Gladys, Ruth, Ira Mae, Marie, Earl Eva, Emma, Leo T., Walter and Columbus.

Wilbert often spoke fondly of his father's farm and the role he played helping alongside his brothers and sisters. Learning to fix and repair, nurture and cultivate. A life of structure and hard work that would serve him well into his service as a United States Marine. After an honorable discharge Wilbert married Annie Jewel in the summer on June 24, 1950. A few years to settle down and the newlyweds moved to the then bustling port city of Richmond, California. It was here in the East Bay that Wilbert and Annie raised their family of 3 boys and a girl. Gary, Steve, Donald and Sherry.

Wilbert provided for his wife and children with hard labor. He worked construction jobs for Giolitti Brothers and O.C. Jones Construction on various contracts around the Bay Area. Although having the 'Manly Man' correct posture, eye-contact, firm handshake mentality, the moments of adventure and fatherly humor he leaves are indelibly written in the minds of his children. Steve can clearly remember being with his brother Donny, childhood friends Robyn and Chad Brice riding in the back of Wilbert's pick-up on another excursion at the city dump. Sherry recalls times when she would fall asleep by the heater under a blanket and her father would come home exhausted from work, but with enough energy to say, "Girl"! "Get up and do something"! Donny can remember their monthly haircuts sitting on the stool with the garage door opened up so all their friends could see them. Wilbert would say, "Hold on to what you want to keep!" because the rest was coming off.

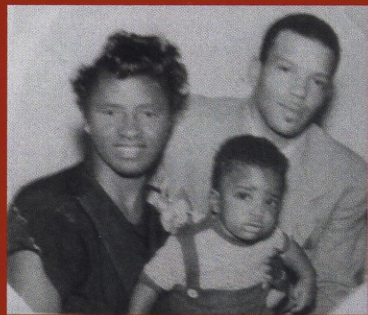
One day brother Richard Evans made a visit to Wilbert. He witnessed to him about a life on a paradise earth with perfect health. Undoubtedly, that appealed to him and a study ensued. And after his wife Annie already baptized; Wilbert, convinced that what he had heard was the truth, made his dedication and symbolized it on December 27, 1969.

Following his baptism, Wilbert's life was completely devoted to his God Jehovah. He was active in his ministry, a regular participant in the congregation meetings and generous with his time and strength to all his Christian brothers and sisters. Happy times in his spiritual service were plentiful. One year, Wilbert made the trip with his family to Canada to attend an International District Convention affording his children the opportunity to see the vastness of Jehovah's organization. In time Wilbert was appointed as Ministerial Servant and had the privilege of giving a symposium in the Central Richmond Congregation. And in keeping with the work that supported his family, Wilbert worked closely with Regional Building Committee of Jehovah's Witnesses. As a volunteer he made cherished friendships and worked on many Kingdom Halls; one of them being this very location. He would make frequent visits back to his father's house in Louisiana and relish on the fond memories he held as a child. On one of those trips he and his nephews traveled back and spent time together on the farm that he was raised on. That proved to be a highlight of his life. Other times he took vacations with family friends; the Marsh, Brice and Evan families.

After retirement Wilbert stayed busy publishing in his ministry, spending more time with his wife, family and growing grandchildren. Although he was beyond working secularly, he continued to lend his hands to projects with close friend Jesse Marks. Often these two were found at Carrow's in Richmond. And owing to their generosity, if you happened upon them before the work day started, you would enjoy a meal and their kind company, all for free.

Against the backdrop of continued service to Jehovah, Wilbert's grass roots and easy pace gave him a simple contentment in life: his family and his garden. Collard greens, turnips, tomatoes and organic seasonally grown lettuce often left his home by the bagful to appreciative visitors. In fact, it was known that a trip to the Jones home was not complete without perusing through the garden. He was often heard entertaining and humming a certain melody that he no doubt learned as a child back in the south. In that vegetable garden, Wilbert was a farm boy at peace. Happy and contented!

A few years later in the fall of 1997, after 47 years of marriage Wilbert and family suffered the loss of his late wife Annie. Although the separation pained him immeasurably, he took comfort and solace in family, the congregation and the hope that he and his wife embraced together: seeing each other again in the resurrection. Although a widower for some 16 years, Wilbert's love for the truth and his zeal for Jehovah's Kingdom were evident. As a testament to the faith within his heart even at the most progressive stages of dementia, when called on to pray, Wilbert remembered to pray to Jehovah and in the name of his son Jesus Christ. Wilbert Jones was a generous, supportive and kind person who loved Jehovah, his family and his Christian brothers and sisters. Although having finished his course for now, he leaves behind a life characterized by loyal service and loving family. His surviving children are Walter "Red" Ford, Gary Jones and wife Pamela, Steven Earl Jones and wife Sabina, Donald Jones and wife Diana and Sherry Lynn Jones. Grandchildren- LaKeal Taylor Wright, Walter Ford III, Sean Ford, Brandy Shantel Jones, Walter M. Ford, Lamar Rashad Jones, Alise Jamilah Jones, Derek Donald Jones, five great grandchildren and four great great grandchildren. He also leaves behind his siblings Ira Mae, Earl Eva and a host of nieces, nephews. All mentioned and gathered look forward to the time to see him again 'When All Is New'.



Ollie

Ira

Wilbert

Marie

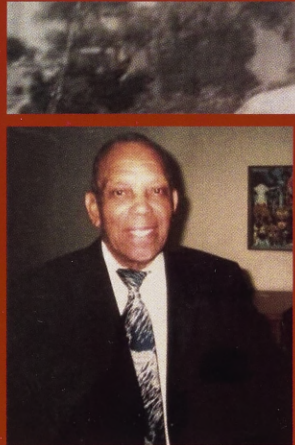
Columbus

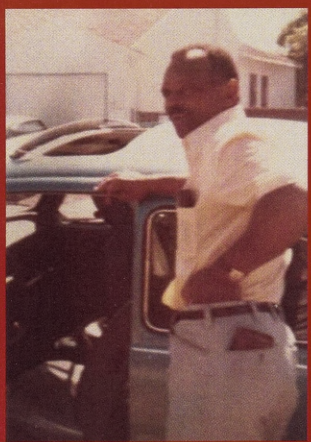
Ruth

Leo T

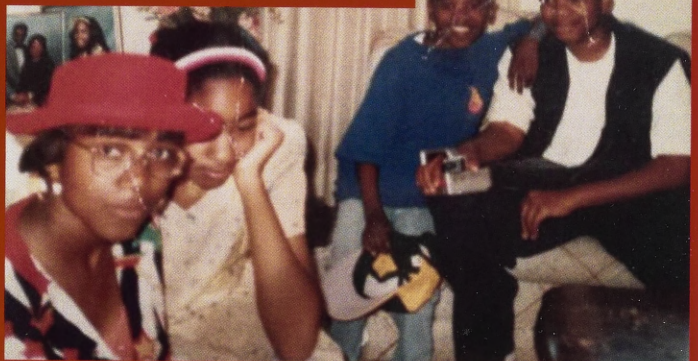
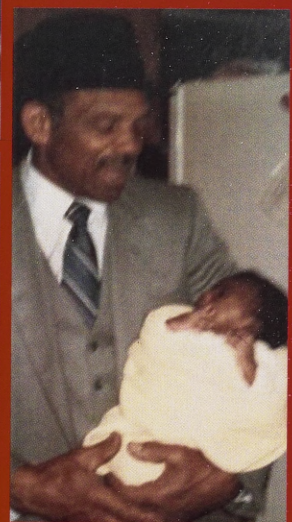
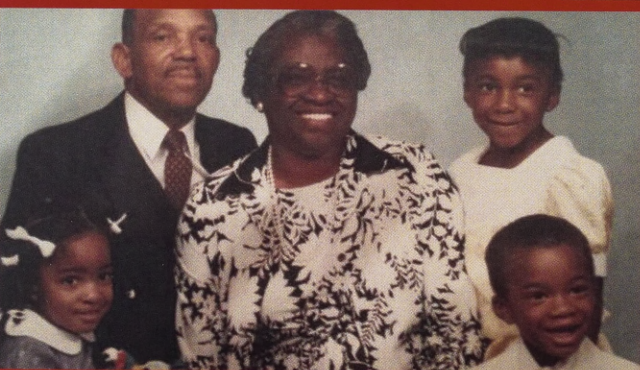
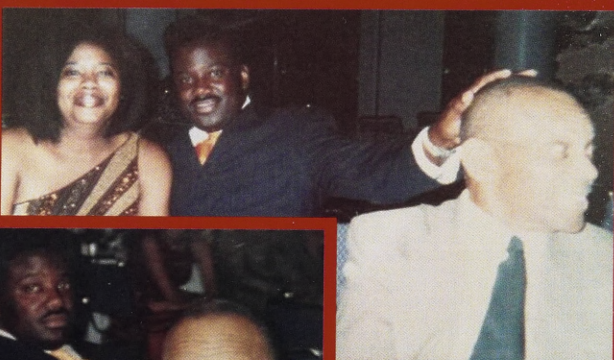
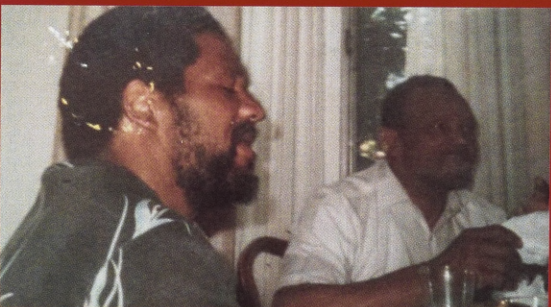
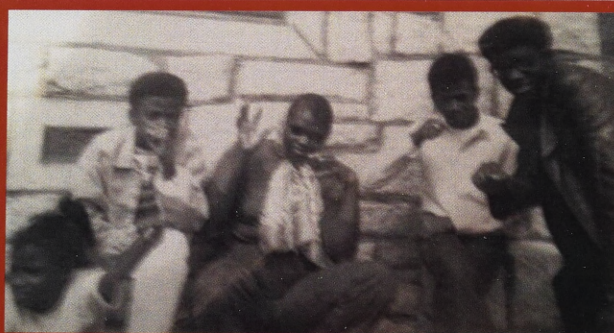


~The Sons and Daughters of Shelton Jones~









And he will wipe out every tear from their eyes, and death will be no more,
neither will mourning nor outcry nor pain be anymore.
The former things have passed away.
And the One seated on the throne said: "Look! I am making all things new."
Also he says: "Write, for these words are faithful and true."

REVELATION 21:4 & 5

Order of Service

Opening Prayer: Keith Marks

Discourse: Arthur McCoy

Song No. 134

Concluding Prayer: Jesse L. Marks

Family Acknowledgements

We would like to take a moment to express our gratitude and gratefulness for
your comforting words, thoughtful prayers, cards, meals, flowers, plants,
text messages, telephone calls, visits and practical assistance.

In a time of loss we are truly humbled by the love and support that
has been shown by our dear friends and family.

Verse 17 of Proverbs 17 says that 'A true friend shows love at all times,
And is a brother who is born for times of distress'.

All of you have endeared yourselves as our true friends in this grievous period.

The Jones Family



